



Urban District Council of Rishton.

ABRIDGED

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING DETAILS OF WORK
DONE BY THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE DISTRICT OF RISHTON FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
RISHTON.

August, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members OF THE Urban District Council of Rishton.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Interim Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of Rishton for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	2,878.4
Rateable Value	£34,208
Estimated product of 1d. Rate	£133
Population, 1951 Census	5,794
Death Rate per 1,000 population	15.7
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	12.1

Rishton is a small urban area whose chief industries are cotton, felt and carpet weaving and paper making.

VITAL STATISTICS

There were 70 live births and 4 still births registered during 1951, and 91 deaths from all causes. The birth rate has decreased from 13.2 to 12.1, whilst the death rate has stayed constant. It is satisfactory to note that 57.3% of all deaths took place at the age of 70 or over and 17.7% of all deaths at the age of 80 or over.

Not a single infant death occurred in the year, which is very pleasing to record. But it will be seen that deaths exceeded births by 21; such a trend could in due time lead to the extinction of the community. But much earlier than that, the inevitable rise in the proportion of old people must impose intolerable burdens on the reduced numbers of the young, and indeed signs of this are beginning to appear.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As will be seen from the tables at the rear, Measles and Whooping Cough were the only diseases of school life. No cases of Diphtheria or Infantile Paralysis were notified. From 47 cases of Diphtheria notified in 1933 it fell to 2 cases in 1943, since when no further case has been notified. It is to be hoped that this result does not lead to complacency on the part of mothers in having their children immunised; any slackening of effort would soon bring a return of this dangerous disease.

HOUSING

Sixty-eight Council Houses have been constructed since the end of the war, all permanent, on an attractive site known as the Sands Estate. It is entirely surrounded by lawns, and air space is abundant.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

The local Health and Welfare Services provided under the National Health and Assistance Acts in Rishton are administered by the Lancashire County Council (No. 5 Health Division).

The Medical Officer for the district is Dr. R. C. Webster, who is also Divisional Medical Officer to the No. 5 Divisional Health Committee, and can be contacted at the Divisional Health Offices, 19, St. James Street Accrington. (Telephone Accrington 4223).

Miss E. Singleton is the Health Visitor/School Nurse for the Rishton district, and the following are the services administered at the Child Welfare and School Clinic, 108, High Street, Rishton. (Telephone Great Harwood 3177).

1. Ante-Natal Clinic ... 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month.
2. Child Welfare Clinic Each Tuesday afternoon.
3. Minor Ailment Clinic Each Monday and Friday morning.
4. Immunisation Clinic . As and when arranged.
5. Orthopædic Clinic ... Each Wednesday.
6. Ophthalmic Clinic ... Alternate Monday afternoons
(by appointment).

The County Midwife for Rishton is Miss M. H. Rogerson, of 27, Blackburn Road, Rishton, and her telephone is Great Harwood 3205.

The County District Nurse for the area is Mrs. A. Wilson, of 4, Church View, Rishton, and her telephone number is Great Harwood 2013.

The Ambulance Service serving Rishton is stationed at Game Street, Great Harwood, and to obtain its service persons must telephone Accrington 4780.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951

Population—1951 Census : 5,794

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births—Legitimate	67	39	28
Live Births—Illegitimate	3	0	3
	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 39	<hr/> 31
Still Births	4	2	2
Deaths	91	—	—
	<hr/>		
	Rishton U.D.C. England & Wales.		
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	12.1	...	15.5
Still Births „ „ „	0.68	..	0.36
Death Rate „ „ „	15.7	...	12.5

There were no deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

SUMMARY OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Cancer (all forms)	7	4	11
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	3	4	7
Coronary Diseases	6	0	6
Heart Diseases	7	13	20
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	0	1
Influenza	2	4	6
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	11	9	20
Ulcer of Stomach	2	2	4
Other Diseases	1	8	9
Accidents	1	1	2
Other Deaths	1	0	1
	44	47	91

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods Years.				NEW CASES				DEATHS			
				Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry		Respiratory		Non-Resp'ry	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—	...	...	...	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
10—	...	...	...	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20—	...	...	...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25—	...	...	...	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45—	...	...	...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
55—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65—	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75 and upwards				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals				1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
				4		2		0		0	

Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930

Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register on the 31st December, 1951, is as follows :

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
23	12	35	6	4	10	29	16	45

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Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

No action has been called for under the above regulations, which concerns tuberculosis employees in the milk trade.

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Notifiable Diseases notified during year.

A table giving the number of infectious diseases notified during the year, also the ages at which cases occurred, is given below.

Cases Noti- fied	Years										Hosp'l Cases
	Under 1	1— 3	3— 5	5— 10	10— 15	15— 25	25— 45	45— 65 and over			
Smallpox											
Scarlet Fever	3	2	1								
Diphtheria											
Enteric Fever											
Measles	133	41	24	1							
Whooping Cough	28	8	2								
Pneumonia	17	2			1	6	3	2			
Puerperal Pyrexia											
Cerebro-Spinal Fever											
Acute Poliomyelitis											
Acute Polio Encephalitis											
Encephalitis Lethargica ..											
Dysentery											
Ophthalmia Beonatorum..											
Erysipelas											
Malaria											
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..											
Non-Pulmonary											
Totals	181	9	32	78	29	1	1	6	3	2	

It is pleasing to note in the preceding table that the major killing diseases of young children are noticeable by their absence, a state of affairs which it is hoped will continue.

A glimpse at the following table illustrates advances made in the prevention of infantile mortality over the last five years. ∞

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 popul'n	No regis- tered	Rate per 1000 popul'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of Deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
RISHTON										
U.D.										
Year 1951 ...	70 ..	12.1	91 ..	15.7	4 ...	54	Nil ...	Nil	Nil ...	Nil
„ 1950 ...	78 ...	13.2	93 ...	15.7	3 ...	37	Nil ...	Nil	2 ...	26
„ 1949 ...	90 ..	15.4	87 ...	14.9	2 ...	22	Nil ...	Nil	2 ...	22
„ 1948 ...	84 ...	14.8	72 ...	12.7	2 ...	23	Nil ...	Nil	2 ...	23
„ 1947 ...	118 ...	21.5	87 ...	15.9	1 ...	8	1 ...	8.40	3 ...	25
„ 1946 ...	92 ...	17.0	87 ...	16.0	2 ...	21	1 ...	10.63	5 ...	54
Average 5 years 1946—1950	—	16.3	— ...	15.1	—	21	— ...	4.24	—	30
									Nil ...	Nil

Adjusted Live Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.04) = 12.6 per 1,000
 „ Death Rate (comparative factor 0.90) ... 14.1 „ „

COUNCIL OFFICES,
BROOK STREET,
RISHTON.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the joint Annual Report of Mr. C. Woodcock and myself for the year 1951.

I took over the responsibilities of the work of the Health Department in August, 1951, and commenced an association which I hope will be mutually happy and beneficial.

The only radical change throughout the year has been in the cleansing service, where the tip has been brought under a greater degree of control. This service was also responsible for the revenue gained from salvage, where the high prices obtained were so beneficial to the general ratepayer.

I am grateful to the officials and the staff for the help I have received, and to the Chairman and members of the Council for their encouragement and consideration.

Yours faithfully,

S. PILKINGTON,

Sanitary Inspector.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Water Supplies

Samples of the water supply to the area have been taken, and proved to be satisfactory.

Drainage

By far the most important feature of this work is the conversion of the insanitary waste water closet to a fresh water closet. Twenty-nine of these conversions were carried out during the year. A grant of £6 per authorised conversion is made by the Council, who wish to encourage this work.

Public Cleansing Service

This service is one of the most important aspects of environmental hygiene administered by an Urban Authority. During the year a weekly collection of all ashbins has been maintained, together with twice weekly collection at the shops in the area, and here I must pay a tribute to the cleansing staff, who made this collection possible, even during spells of inclement weather. Refuse disposal has seen a number of changes during the latter part of the year. The tip has been closed to indiscriminate tipping, and a permanent man placed in charge. A great advance towards complete control has been made, and the rodent population has been greatly reduced. Salvage collected and sold resulted in a contribution to the rates of the sum of £733 17s. 7d. Notwithstanding the efforts of the cleansing staff, valuable materials are still destroyed or otherwise disposed of, hereby losing valuable salvage and revenue.

Rodent Control

The one part-time operator of the scheme has been engaged mainly on sporadic infestations in all parts of the district, sewer treatment, the Sewage Works, and also the tip. The only notable infestation of a dwelling-house was at No. 27/29, Spring Street,

which, since the last treatment, has not recurred. In order to encourage notification of rodent infestation, the Council provide a free service and the Ministry of Agriculture reimburse 50% of the cost.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Samples of retailed milk were taken during the year, and on report proved to be a satisfactory quality, as were the samples of ice-cream taken.

Routine inspection of food shops were the main feature in the supervision of food, and the standard of premises and the methods employed were found to be, on the whole, good. But co-operation with the food trades will no doubt result in further advancement to the benefit of the community as a whole, particularly as regards the handling of food for sale and the provision of hot water supplies.

Unsound Food

The following food-stuffs have been rejected during the year as being unfit for human consumption :—

Milk	3 tins
Veal	12 lbs.
Corned Beef	6 „
Salmon	17 „
Fruit	5 tins
Ham	32 lbs.

Housing Inspection

Houses inspected for housing defects	52
Number of inspections made for the purpose	170
Number of dwelling-houses found to be unfit for human habitation	1
Number of dwelling-houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	51
Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after formal action by Local Authority	48

FACTORIES ACT, 1937/48

Part I of the Act

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Written notices	Occupiers prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	.. 24	.. None	.. —
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	51	.. 57	.. None	.. —
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority †(excluding out-workers' premises)	—	.. —	.. —	.. —
Total	61	.. 81	.. —	.. —

2.—Cases in which defects were found : During the year no defects were found.

